

App. No. 09/809,084
Art Unit: 2161

Docket No. 2000-EM001

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A method for provisioning communication services, the method comprising:
defining a state machine associated with a provisioning model, the state machine comprising a set of current states of the provisioning model;

defining at least one transition within the provisioning model that defines conditions under which states are added to or removed from the set of current states of the provisioning model; and

generating a signal that identifies when a transition occurs that either adds states to the state machine or removes states from the state machine.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
modifying arguments of the signal, by the at least one transition.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the signal is generated by an external API of a provisioning engine.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the signal is generated by one of the at least one transition.

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31. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein generating a signal that identifies when a transition occurs that either adds states to the state machine or removes states from the state machine further comprises:

generating a signal API call; and

delivering the signal at a predetermined time after generating the corresponding signal API call.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one transition comprises at least one of a signal type, a set of from states or a set of to states.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the at least one transition performs at least one of adding the to states of the set of current states or removing the from states from the set of current states when a signal matching the signal type is received.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the signal matching the signal type is received by an executing instance of the provisioning model and the from states are a subset of the set of current states.

35. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the provisioning model comprises a plurality of executing instances each storing data specific to a respective one of the instances.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the provisioning model further comprises stored data to be used by each of the instances.

37. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the at least one transition further comprises at least one task that is executed when a signal matching the signal type is received.

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38. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the from states are a subset of the set of current states.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the at least one transition further comprises transition arguments that are communicated to the at least one task.

40. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein at least one of the executing instances further comprises calls to another model as a sub-instance.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the sub-instance further comprises means